



The Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

60 Years of Public Service, 1949 to 2009

Volume 59 Number 8

www.phil-mont.org

August 2009

Field Day fun, 2009!



Happy Birthday Rollie!

August 5th is the 99th birthday of our most senior member, Rollie Madara, W3PWG.
He will be operating W3AA/60 this month.

MS Bike to Shore is fast approaching. Contact Carmen, KE3QB, right away if you'd like to volunteer. The deadline is August 1st. Forms inside to sign up and order a shirt.

<p><i>The Blurb</i> is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. <i>Copying and quoting</i> is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs.</p> <p>Requests should be sent to the Editor.</p> <p>Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer.</p> <p>Editor: Rick DeVirgiliis ND3B nd3b@arrl.net 215-908-7225</p> <p>Club Archivist: Gwen Patton NG3P ng3p@arrl.net 610-630-9862</p> <p>Labels and mailing: WB3KOJ & WB3KOH</p> <p>Submissions deadline: All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.</p>	<p>Directors:</p> <p>W3AOK (09) WA3KIO (09) N3XKE (09) N3MT (10) KB2ERL (10) KB3IV (10) NS3K (A)</p>	<p>Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 88 Abington, PA 19001 http://www.phil-mont.org Webmistress: Maggie K3XS k3xs@arrl.net</p> <p>For club information: Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: wb3koj@comcast.net</p>
	<p>Sunday Morning Net Schedules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Meter/ 70cm Net..... at 0930L on W3QV repeater • 10-on-10 Net at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM) • 75 meter Net at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB • ARES at 2100L on the W3QV repeater 	

<p>Committees</p> <p>Archives: NG3P Audit: NS3K Awards: open Blurb folding: WB3KOJ & WB3KOH Directory: WB3KOJ</p>	<p>DX: N3MT Emerg. Coord: K3HWE Field Day: KE3QB Internet: K3XS Membership: N3XKE Net Control: KB3IV Publicity: W3RM</p>	<p>Program: Club VP Public Service: KE3QB Refreshments: W3AOK Repeater: W3AOK Skywarn: WX3PHI Sunshine: N3GLU</p>	<p>TVI: W3VVS VE Program: NS3K W3AA Trustee: WU3I Welcome: N3UBY Youth: N3MT</p>
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All visitors are welcome!

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at **Roxborough Memorial Hospital, 5800 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128**
Maps and directions are available at www.phil-mont.org

License Examinations are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at

Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002

Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or jmccloskey@msn.com for the latest information.

Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System

Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA **Trustee: W3RM**

147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz

Reach us on EchoLink through WU3I-L

W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: W3VVS

The Officers

President: WU3I Steve Hoch, 546 Monastery Ave, Philadelphia PA 19128 wu3i@arrl.net

Vice President: N3QV Eric D. Marano, PO BOX 233, Skippack PA 19474 n3qv@arrl.net

Secretary: W3STW Al Tribble wstw@juno.com

Treasurer: W3RM Richard A. Moll roger.mike@verizon.net

Asst. Treasurer: N3MT Michael P. Taraborrelli michaelmt_1999@yahoo.com

The Prez Sez...

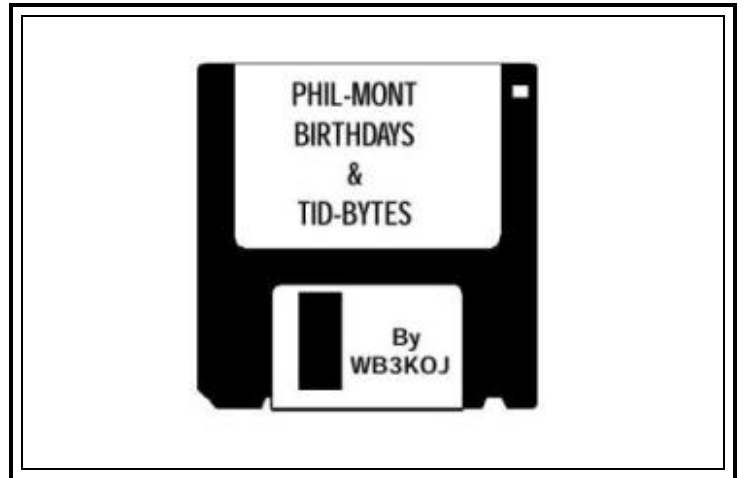
Hope all of you are enjoying a very nice summer so far. The weather has been nice and cool for this first half of summer and I am trying to take advantage of it as much as possible. September will be here sooner than we think and bringing with it some hamfests in the area and the Premier public safety event of the year: the MS150 city to shore ride. If you have not signed up for this event, *What are you waiting for? It is a bit of work but a fun time and for the best of causes.* I will be there for the entire event in Ocean City and Somers Point. I will be looking for all of you. See you in September. Hey that sounds like a great lyric for a song.

de Steve, WU3I



The latest test session produced one upgrade to General and two new Technician Class licensees. The next session is Thursday, August 27th.

Many thanks to our intrepid VEs: WA3BXH, N3UGI, W3RM, KB3IV and N3XKE.

**August Birthdays**

- 01 Ralph Germanotta – K3FXR
- 02 Tom Bohlander - WA3KLR
- 04 George King - W3PXY
- 05 Rollie Madara - W3PWG
- 09 Carolyn Popovic - KA3VLJ
- 14 Lucille Gargano (XYL N3YGY)
Patricia MacKenzie (XYL W3RED)
- 15 Art Lester – W3WFI
- 17 Kitty Newman (XYL KC2FIO)
- 18 Norma Coupe (XYL WA3BXH)
- 19 Donna Lynn Larkin - WA1WYQ
(XYL KA2FFP)
- 20 Keiko Simon – KB3SJT*
- 24 Frank Burstein – K3FSB
- 30 Paul Bohlander - W3VVS
Vincent Buono - WA3ADI
*New Member 2009

Membership Stats

At press time PMRC had:

90 FULL PAID MEMBERS
9 FAMILY MEMBERS
3 YOUTH MEMBERS
2 HONORARY MEMBERS
0 PENDING MEMBERS

Radio Stores ... 'N' More

by Bob Thomas, W3NE

A CONVEIENT COAX PUSH-ON CONNECTOR



Sometimes having to change a coax cable connection repeatedly can be a real pain. For instance, let's say you have one transceiver that you use at the fixed station, but also like to take along when you're out mobiling. At other times, it might be necessary to transfer the rig's output coax from an antenna to a dummy load for some tests and then and back again to the antenna. Changing the transceiver from one antenna to another can also be annoying with all the putting-on and taking-off of standard PL-259 threaded coax connectors. Finally, some of us like to completely disconnect the shack from the antennas to avoid lightening damage but a coax switch just doesn't cut it, so that means unscrewing the transmission line outside and then remembering to put it back again before operating.

The easiest way to simplify all the "ons" and "offs" of coax changes is to use a "threadless" push-on connector like the ones in the photo. The push-on connector is permanently screwed on the standard PL259 male connector at the end of the coax lead from the rig or any other cable that is frequently changed. After that all that's necessary is to shove it on or pull it off the destination SO-259 female connector. The slip-on sleeve is smooth inside with

four thin slots around its periphery that apply just the right amount of friction to the external threads of the mating connector to hold it in place, but not so much that it damages the threads. It is, as they say on Interstate highway signs, "Easy On-Off"!

Push-on connectors are often available in one of the bins of connectors frequently displayed by dealers at hamfests. The ones shown here are Workman Model KC-259. They are well made with Teflon insulation and bright nickel plated brass. They can be obtained on eBay from CRS Communications for \$2.35 each plus shipping. Two connectors cost \$7.79 including shipping. Life doesn't have to be complicated; start saving your wrist now from Carpal Tunnel Syndrome!

Welcome back John!

A New - Old member!

NJ3G has reactivated his membership:

John A. Geliebter - NJ3G - John
8041 Winston Road
Philadelphia, PA 19118
Phone: 215-651-9427
DOB: 02/04/--
License: Extra Class Expires: 07/07/2019
Occupation: Phila Police Detective
ARRL Member: Exp.5/31/2010
email address: pdpiper0614@verizon.net

de W3RM

From the Secretary

There were no meetings in July but Al sent this about his Field Day experience. Hopefully his writer's cramp will be gone in time for the September meetings! Thanks for your dedication and monthly contributions Al!
—ed.

For several field day events a few Club members and I attempted to contact another amateur radio station via the Jas-2 (FO-29) satellite. The contact would be worth 100 points. I selected FO-29 because the Philadelphia, Pa., orbital vertical plane

trajectory (pass) from acquisition of signal (AOS) to loss of signal (LOS) reaches an elevation of 70 degrees above the horizon. Theoretically if there are no surrounding obstructions, this would be considered a pass lasting about 20 minutes.

The equipment used consisted of a 12 volt deep cycle marine battery an Icom 910H transceiver, a two meter 16 element cross Yagi antenna for transmitting and a 70 cm 30 element cross Yagi antenna for receiving both mounted on a five foot cross fiber glass boom about seven feet off the ground and assorted lengths of good grade coax cable with N connectors. I included a computer and a Yaesu G5500 az-el system to follow FO-29 from AOS to LOS.

Thanks to Barry, K3EUI, Doug, N3NZZ and my fellow Club members things were ready at the appointed hour. Signals from the first FO-29 pass came through so loud and clear I knew a contact was one mike button push and call away. Well, I was wrong but not to worry there would be a better pass in about an hour and a half. Looking over connections checking antenna positioning, performing transmitter and receiver checks the time went by in what seemed like just a few minutes.

Once again, right on time we heard FO-29 louder and clearer than the last pass, I knew this attempt, to make a contact with another station via FO-29 was going to pay off, big time. We were to make only one contact, but this was one field day rule I had reservations about keeping. However, when repeated calls brought the same results as before, I did the unthinkable. I increased my transmitter power output from five to ten watts. The recommended EIRP is 100w. At 5w output and my estimated EIRP was 70w at 10w it would approach (minus losses) the recommended limit.

At ten watts still no luck, all I could envision, as I looked to the heavens, was a huge alligator in the sky. I finally realize I could not compete with stations running EIRP levels of 2kw (running 100w to an antenna with a 20 db gain) I didn't and following xponder power level recommendations don't stand a prayer of getting into the FO-29

xponder during the field day event. Needless to say I heard my down link signal a few days later, it was weak but then that is what satellite communication is, weak signal communication.

73 de Al, W3STW

KB2GSD (SK)

On July 17th, 2009 Walter Cronkite - a legend in the news community and the world - became a Silent Key at age 92. From WWII to the turbulent 60's he covered it all and earned the nickname "most trusted man in America."

Three cheers for Sol, N3UBY, An Applebee's candidate for Real Hero

By his daughter Meryl

My dad is 82. Since retiring, he volunteers his time in many ways. He's with two war veterans groups and is hospital chair for both, going once a month to the VA Hospital and Veterans Home to entertain patients. He's in three ham radio clubs and volunteers doing communications for events, such as parades, runs, etc. He volunteered with Red Cross Disaster Services for more than eight years and went to New York during 9/11 to help. He volunteered with the USO for over four years, in appreciation of the military servicemen/women. He volunteers with an organization that rebuilds computers for disadvantaged children, for a monthly food bank and at a senior center for special luncheons. He recently started a project to make goodie bags for military going overseas. He also helps me with my business. A few years ago, at age 79, he took a cross-country trip alone in his minivan for a little more than three weeks. He's to be admired and is an inspiration. His life's motto is, "Be nice and nice things will happen to you."

I voted ... early and often!

(Voting ended July 23rd but results won't be announced until the 30th.)

N₃MSS ~ BIKE MS CITY TO SHORE 2009
OCTOBER 3 & 4
COMMUNICATION SPECIALISTS PUBLIC SERVICE FORM

PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE

ONLY ONE NAME PER FORM

NAME: _____

CALL: _____

ADDRESS: _____ GMRS

CALL: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: _____ AMATEUR/CB/GMRS

CLUB _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

ARE YOU 18 YEARS OR OLDER? ____ YES ____ NO...IF NO, PARENT SIGNATURE REQUIRED

HERE==> _____

WHICH DAYS CAN YOU HELP: DAY 1 (OCT. 3) ____ ~ DAY 2 (OCT. 4) ____ ~ BOTH DAYS ____

IF PARTICIPATING BOTH DAYS, WOULD YOU LIKE TO RESERVE A COMPLIMENTARY HOTEL ROOM IN OCEAN CITY: YES ____ NO ____ ~ IF YES, YOU MUST BE WILLING TO SHARE THE ROOM WITH OTHER VOLUNTEERS. PLEASE GIVE THEIR CALLSIGNS & NAMES HERE (if none provided, roommates will be assigned for you):

(ROOMMATES, PLEASE SUBMIT ALL OF YOUR FORMS AT SAME TIME)

INDICATE FIRST AND SECOND CHOICE

CHECK POINT ALONG THE ROUTE	EVENT SUPPORT VEHICLE**
Choice	Choice
1 st 2 nd	1 st 2 nd
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> NORTH END CHECKPOINT	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> SAG VAN DRIVER*
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> SOUTH END CHECKPOINT	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> SAG VAN PASSENGER*
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> REST STOP/LUNCH STOP	NEW THIS YEAR - SAG VOLUNTEERS MUST ATTEND
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> LAST YEAR'S LOCATION	A MANDATORY ORIENTATION PRIOR TO THE RIDE
PROVIDE LAST YEAR'S MILE MARKERS	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> STAFF/VOLUNTEER VEHICLE
DAY 1 _____ DAY 2 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____

NOTE: EVENT SUPPORT VEHICLE OPERATIONS REQUIRES A 25 WATT RADIO OR BETTER WITH A 3 Db GAIN 1/2 OR 5/8 WAVE AND YOU MUST BE WILLING TO DRIVE VEHICLE, OPERATE RADIO AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS ALONG THE BIKE ROUTE.

BANDS YOU CAN WORK MOBILE: 144 _____ 220 _____ 440 _____ GMRS _____ APRS _____ *

BANDS YOU CAN WORK HT: 144 _____ 220 _____ 440 _____ GMRS _____ APRS _____ *

* PLEASE LIST YOUR APRS RADIO GEAR

HERE: _____

PL AND/OR DPL TONE CAPABILITY REQUIRED FOR AMATEUR & GMRS RADIOS.

YOUR RADIOS AND ANTENNAS MUST BE IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION.

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU WORKED THE MS 150 BIKE RIDE: _____

PROVIDE YOUR SHIRT SIZE: S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL ☐ XXXL ☐ OTHER ☐

COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM ASAP! DEADLINE: AUG. 1, 2009

MAIL THIS FORM TO: E-MAIL TO: MY3GUMBAS@VERIZON.NET

OR

C. DECICCO C/O "BIKE MS CITY TO SHORE 2009" ~ 2518 LEFEVRE STREET, PHILADELPHIA PA 19137
INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT: <http://groups.google.com/group/N3MSS>

PLEASE COMPLETE THE VOLUNTEER WAIVER ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM.

VOLUNTEER CONSENT FORM

I have agreed to participate in the Bike MS: City to Shore 2009 as a volunteer. By signing this consent form, I agree to review any printed instructions relating to my position provided to me by my group leader and/or the National MS Society, Greater Delaware Valley Chapter.

I hereby consent to and permit emergency treatment in the event of injury or illness while participating in the event.

I hereby give permission to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Greater Delaware Valley Chapter to use my name and any photograph, likeness or image taken of me during the event in any promotional materials, publication or via the website.

It is my further understanding that the National MS Society reserves the right to refuse or dismiss anyone that may cause any disturbance or hindrance in any manner that could jeopardize the safety of oneself or others.

Unless my role includes driving or riding in an assigned Chapter vehicle, I understand that it will be my sole responsibility to obtain the necessary mode of transportation to perform my volunteer responsibilities.

If for whatever reason I am unable to perform as agreed, I will advise the Greater Delaware Valley Chapter, Volunteer Manager or Development Manager immediately.

Volunteer Signature

Parent/Legal Guardian

(Signature of parent required if volunteer is under the age of 18)

Emergency Contact (Name/Phone Number): _____

Please advise of any medical/allergy information (required): _____



SUPPORT THE RIDE

Have your company, club or even your call sign
proudly displayed on the back of the EVENT T-Shirt!

If you would like your company logo, club logo, or your call sign in the Super Booster Box this form must be filled out and returned **prior to August 1st**.

Our T-shirts are free to all of our volunteers, but sponsor support enables us to pay for them. Please assist us in this effort by asking your employer to make a contribution and, in turn, see their logo on nearly 500 communicator event T-shirts. The same can be done for your local radio club, repeater group etc. You may also show your personal support by having your call sign and others listed in the prestigious communicator Super Booster Box on the back of our communicator Tee shirts.

- 1) To have your call sign, appropriate information below.
- 2) Please make checks payable to "National MS Society."
- 3) Mail this form and check to (prior to August 1st) :

C. DECICCO
C/O Bike MS: City to Shore
2518 LEFEVRE STREET
PHILADELPHIA PA 19137

- 4) If applicable, email Jeffrey.Brody@pae.nmss.org your high resolution logo company or club logo by **August 1st**

Please print clearly

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Call Sign: _____ Contact Phone Number: (____) ____ - _____

Call Sign to be listed: _____

Name of Company Logo to be listed: _____

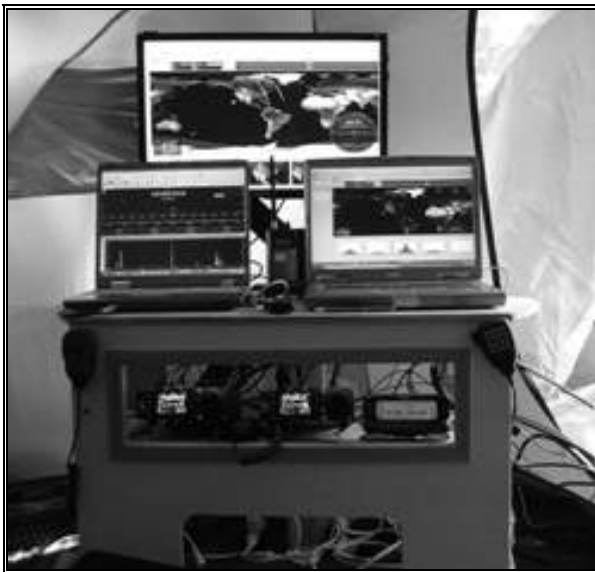
Name of Club Logo to be listed: _____

Company Logos	\$150.00 per logo	x____(qty.) = \$_____
Club Logos	\$50.00 per logo	x____(qty.) = \$_____
Individual Call Signs	\$20.00 per call sign	x____(qty.) = \$_____

GRAND TOTAL: \$_____

Mail this form and check to (prior to August 1st) :

C. DECICCO
C/O Bike MS: City to Shore
2518 LEFEVRE STREET
PHILADELPHIA PA 19137



More pictures coming next month.

Many thanks to **Samuel Leidy, KF3G** and **Tom Bohlander, WA3KLR** for these photos.

Sunday morning Net Control stations still needed. Contact Ed, KB3IV now!

August at PMRC...

There are no meetings this month.

2nd **Sunday –WB3KOJ NCS**
 9th **Sunday - WU3I NCS**
 16th **Sunday - KB3IV NCS**
 23rd **Sunday – KC2PMW NCS**
 27th **Thur - VE test session**
 30th **Sunday – N3QV NCS**

And don't forget the **ARES** net every
 Sunday night at 2100L on the club repeater.
 Larry, K3HWE, wants to hear from **you!**

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For Sale:

Double Braided Dacron Dipole Rope now in stock. 3/16 diameter. Black in color. Will cut to requested length. High stretch resistance. Strength: Excellent, Resistance to abrasion: Excellent, Resistance to chemicals: Very good, Acids: Good. Sunlight resistance: Excellent, Shock load: Excellent. Does not float. Seal ends with heat. Resistant to mildew. Breaking strength 630 Pounds. \$0.14 per foot

Please feel free to forward to other clubs of which you are a member.

Also:

Ameritron AL-811H amplifier Factory Stock with copy of manual. New \$900.00 Sale \$650.00

Contact Steve, WU3I, at 215-605-6074 or
 wu3i@arrl.net for any of the items above.

Stop by 28.480 any night at 2000L and meet Kurt, NN3C and other local 10M enthusiasts.

First Class Mail

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc.
 641 Kismet Road Philadelphia PA 19115

The Blurb